THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) The total number of post offices and sub post offices in Bilaspur and Raipur districts of Madhya Pradesh is given below:—

| District | Total No. of post offices | Sub-post offices |
|---|---|---|
| Bilaspur . . . . . | 651 | 77 |
| Raipur . . . . . | 589 | 64 |

(b) to (d) Post offices are opened progressively under Plan schemes subject to fulfilment of departmental norms and availability of resources.

**Delivery post offices in Bombay**

3528. SHRI GAYA SINGH:

SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) how many Delivery Post Offices are in Bombay City and the average number of letters and packets received by each of these Post Offices for delivery in a day;

(b) whether it is a fact that a number of letters are received every day by these Post Offices in the nature of missort delaying the delivery of letters; and

(c) if so, the average number of letters received as missort in a day and what action is taken/proposed to be taken against the officials who send these missorts?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) There are ninety (90) Delivery Post Offices in Bombay City and on an average they receive 17 lakhs of letter mail and 4 lakhs of packet mails in a day as per the details given in the Annexure. [*See* Appendix 173, Annexure No. 72]

(b) Post Offiecs do receive missorted letters for delivery but they constitute only a small proportion of total mails received for delivery in a day.

(c) The leltters are missorted either because of incomplete address or because of manual errors on the part of the sorters. The letters missorted because of manual error on the part of the sorter constitute on an average only 1.5 per cent of the total mails.

The letters received missorted at a post office are sent to the actual office of delivery immediately for inclusion in delivery next day.

**Panel to examine service condition of EDAs**

3529. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have recently constituted a panel to examine the working and service conditions of the extra-departmental agents in postal services; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) Yes Sir, The Government have set up a One-Man-Committee headed by a retired Judge of Delhi High Court for the purpose.

(b) The terms of reference of the Committee will, *inter-alia*, include the following:—

(1) To examine the system of Extra-Departmental Agency, the conditions of employment, the wage structure of the agents and recommend suitable changes considered necessary.

(2) To examine the reasonableness of introducing a Social Security Scheme for providing P.F. and retirement benefits for employees engaged on Agency basis.

(3) To examine and suggest any changes in the method of recruitment, the minimum qualifications for appointment and conduct and disciplinary rules; and

(4) To review facilities provided for the public at different classes of Extra Departmental Post Offices.

The Committee will function for a period of one year extendable at the discretion of the Government.

**Delay in delivery of letters in Bombay**

3530. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD:
SHRI CHATURANAN MISHRA:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a local letter posted in Bombay City takes three to four days to reach the Postmaster General and other (B.R.) addresses in Bombay City and Suburban areas; and

(b) if so, what remedial steps are being taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM): (a) No, Sir. Local letters are normally delivered on the next day of posting in Bombay and suburban areas through an exclusive and segmented processing of such mails. However, occasional cases of delay cannot be ruled out.

(b) Occasional failures are noticed as they occur, and supervision tightened to ensure against such failures.

**Strength of employees in RMS Divisions in Bombay**

3531. SHRI N. GIRI PRASAD: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total sanctioned strength of different cadres like Sorting Assistants, Mailmen Class 'D', IRMs ASRM Supervisors, etc. in each of the RMS Divisions in Bombay city;

(b) how many posts are lying vacant in each cadre by virtue of resignation, retirement, promotion or for any other reason, including ban on recruitments;

(c) what is the number of pensioners or college students employed each day in each of the sorting offices referred to in part (a) above and what is the total amount paid to them; and

(d) what was overtime bill in each of the above divisions in each month from June 1994 to December 1994?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI SUKH RAM):

| (a) Name of the category | Bombay Sorting Div. | Central Sorting Div. | Airmail Sorting Div. | Automatic Mail Processing Centre |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1. Group A | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 |
| 2. Asstt. Engineer | .. | .. | .. | 9 |
| 3. Group B | 2 | 3 | 4 | .. |
| 4. Group C | | | | |
| Assistant Superintendant Railway Mail Service (Higher Selection Gr. I) | 2 | .. | .. | .. |